- 9. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the treatment or prevention comprises administration of a dosage unit of EPO and/or an EPO equivalent.
- 10. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein a combination of  $\alpha\text{-MSH}$  and/or  $\alpha\text{-MSH}$  equivalent with EPO and/or an EPO equivalent is adminstered.

Please cancel claim 11.

Please and the following claims:

- 13. (New) Method according to claim 3 wherein the dosage of  $\alpha$ -MSH and/or of an  $\alpha$ -MSH equivalent and EPO and/or an EPO equivalent is administered as a single dosage, regular or continued administration, or as a sequential administration.
- 14. (New) Method according to claim 3 wherein condition is caused by an infection.
- 15. (New) Method according to claim 3 wherein the condition is caused by a cancer or a by premalignant disorder.
- 16. (New) Method according to claim 3 wherein the  $\alpha\textsc{-MSH}$  equivalent is a substance acting on the  $\alpha\textsc{-MSH}$  receptor and/or on the melanocortin receptor.
- 17. (New) Method according to claim 3 wherein the treatment or prevention comprises administration of a dosage unit of EPO and/or an EPO equivalent.
- 18. (New) Method according to claim 3 wherein a combination of  $\alpha\textsc{-MSH}$  and/or  $\alpha\textsc{-MSH}$  equivalent with EPO and/or an EPO equivalent is adminstered.

If, inadvertently, a proper multiple dependent claim has not been amended to reduce it to single dependency, please amend it to be dependent solely on the first-mentioned claim, or, if that is not possible, please cancel the claim and notify the undersigned.